

# Part K: Size, History, Command/New Relationships and Population Data

## FORT DETRICK MARYLAND

### Size

**Acres:** 1,153

**Square Footage of Buildings:** 2,129,672 SF

**Plant Replacement Value:** \$950.2 mil

### History

Camp Detrick was made a permanent training field for annual encampment of the 104th Aero Squadron of the 29th Division (Maryland National Guard) in 1931 and named Detrick Field in honor of the late Dr. Frederick L. Detrick, flight surgeon of the unit. In 1938, Detrick Field was removed from the list of military and emergency airfields; but in 1939, the federal government renewed its lease. With World War II looming, Detrick Field became home for a Cadet Pilot Training Program. Quartermaster Corps soldiers from Fort Ritchie, approximately 26 miles north near Sabillasville, MD, were assigned to Detrick Field and kept the facilities operating in the years immediately preceding the onset of World War II. The last airplanes departed Detrick Field in December, 1941, and January, 1942 after the Japanese Imperial Navy bombed US Military forces in Hawaii on December 7, 1941. After Declaration of War, the 104th and Cadet Training pilots were reassigned to conduct antisubmarine patrols off the Atlantic Coast.

Camp Detrick was renamed Fort Detrick as part of the Nation's response to the World War II biological warfare threat. This conversion of the World War II-era program to an all-medical defensive effort reflects the ramp-up of national scientific and technical resources required to focus on and meet new critical needs. The adaptability of Fort Detrick to changing requirements and national priorities is the reason this community of excellence still exists and continues to play a vital role in national defense.

Today, Fort Detrick is a premier quad-service Installation committed to excellence. Medical biological defense is just one area in which Fort Detrick units provide critical leadership. Through medical research and development, medical materiel acquisition, medical logistics, medical information technology development, global telecommunications, cancer research, and many other areas, Fort Detrick is leading the way to the ultimate goal of saving military and civilian lives through improved health care delivery on the battlefield and in the hospital. Proud of its past, Fort Detrick is focused on a future of continued excellence in service to the Nation.

## **Command and New Relationships**

Fort Detrick's missions include base operations support (US Army Garrison – USAG) and strategic missions including national biomedical research and development, joint medical logistics, and global telecommunications. The USAG provides support to the Raven Rock Mountain Complex, Camp David and Communications Sites C and D. The USAG also provides morale, welfare, recreation, and other support services for authorized military and family members, and retirees. As an Army Medical Department Installation, Fort Detrick is under the command and control of the US Army Medical Command, and is now forming a new relationship as a “Special Installation” under the IMA.

Within the DOD, Fort Detrick supports elements of all military services. As the key player in National Biodefense Strategy, the National Interagency Biodefense Campus (NIBC) will be constructed on the Installation over the next seven years. This Campus will bring together, at one location, several federal agencies. The Campus will enhance public health research, biomedical research, and biotechnology development and encourage scientific collaboration. In a new relationship with the National Interagency Biodefense Coordinating Committee (NIBCC), the USAG is the facilitator of the NIBCC and established a process for promoting federal interagency coordination in facilities planning and technology sharing to minimize duplication of effort, technology and facilities.

## **Population**

	<b>Authorized</b>
Military	1,307
Civilian	2,385
Contractor	2,485
Student	6
Other	165
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,348</b>